Numb. 37.

The British Apollo,

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From Wednesday June 16th. to Friday June 18th. 1708.

WHereas great Part of our Subſcribers were left Chriſtmas laſt Quarter, as (at our Requeſt) to order their Servants to pay our Men and Boys as ſoon as the Quarter was up (and we deſire indeed to deal only with ſuch) we more urge it now by reaſon our Numbers are ſo advanc'd, that our Servants can ſpare but little time to Collect the Money. On *Wednesday* next ends the Quarter.

Q. *Gentlemen, There was an Account ſome time ago (in the Daily Courant, which I ſuppoſe you have ſeen) That the Romiſh Miſſionaries in China, had met with a Colony of the Jews, in ſome part of that Country; Who had never heard of Chriſt, &c.*

Now in 2 Eſdras Chap. 13. *beginning at* Ver. 29. *There is an Angelical Narration (If we may believe the Author) That the* Samaritans *carry'd Captive by* Shalmaneſer *into* Aſſyria (*mentioned in* 2 Kings Chap. 17.) *Of whom the Bible (as I remember) Gives no Account of their Return. I Travel'd a Year and a half (Eaſtward, as it appears to me) and ſettled in a Country, till then Unknown,* &c.

Therefore your Opinion is deſired, whether it is probable (allowing the Account in the Courant to be true) That thoſe Captivated Jews, were the Anceſtours of theſe lately diſcover'd? And how far the Apocrypha *may be depended upon?*

A. Sir, the Obſervation you have made, has a Plauſible Appearance, but we fear it will not hold good upon a more accurate Survey. The two Apocryphal Books of *Eſdras* are own'd as ſuch by the very Church of Rome, tho' her Canon of Scripture be Larger than ours. You may remember, that the account which the *Poſt-Man* gives us, of ſo remarkable an Occurrence, circumſcrib'd the Settlement of thoſe Jews in *China*, within either Two Hundred Years before our Saviour's Birth, or as many after. But ſince it was obſerv'd, that they knew no other Jeſus than the Son of *Sirak*, we ſhall place the Æra of their Settlement as High as that Account admits of, and yet plainly ſhew you, that it falls too Low to comport with your Obſervation. In the Paſſage, you have quoted, the Story of the Iſraelites travailing to an unknown Country, is ſaid to have been Reveal'd to *Eſdras*. Now *Eſdras* had Really ſuch a Revelation, or he had not. If, that he had ſuch a Revelation, be a forgery, we have reaſon to ſuſpect the Matter of the Revelation too. If he Really had ſuch a Revelation, then it follows, that the Account given us in *Eſdras* is too Early for the Account given us by the *Poſt-Man*, ſince *Eſdras* lived ſome Hundred Years before that Later Æra. Beſides, the Paſſage in *Eſdras* ſeems to repreſent either the whole Body, or at leaſt the Major Part of the Captive Iſraelites to have taken the Journey ſpecified; who were too numerous to agree with this Modern Account, unleſs they afterwards ſeparated and ſetled in diſtinct Colonies.

Q. *Why our Great and Learned in Divinity ſo much Envy thoſe they Call Lay-preachers; ſeeing God has in all Ages done his Mighty Works by poor and deſpiſeable Inſtruments; as for Inſtances,* Jerico *walls by the ſound of Rams-horns.* David *in the overthrow of the Philiſtian. And in the Goſpel-days God has and does Convince and Convert by Fiſhermen, and other Men who have their Heads and Hands in the trading World, when the Learned ſeem to labour in vain. Or as thoſe in the* 28th *of* Jeremiah *and* 32d Ver. *You will highly oblige your Friend and Promoter of* Apollo.

A. The purport of your Queſtion comes to this, why Illiterate Perſons are not *Now*, as well as in Former Ages, fitter for the Pulpit than Learned Men; to which we anſwer, becauſe Miracles are *Ceas'd.*

Q. *I return you thanks for your Anſwer to the Queſtion about Gaming, which you have Signed with* S. F. *And ſince you affirm that it is Covetouſneſs, I deſire you would let me and the Publick know, whether that kind of Covetouſneſs be* 1ſt. *The Sin that the Apoſtle ſpeaks of when he ſays it is Adultery.* 2dly, *Whether it be not ſuch People that are Excluded from Entring into the Kingdom of Heaven: Or* 3dly, (*which will Compleat all, ſince he that offends in one Point is guilty of all*) *Whether it be not a directly breaking the* 10th *Commandment? Should I uſe many Words to excuſe my being thus troubleſome, it would only Augment the Crime, I therefore hope you'll pardon Yours,* &c.

A. As all manner of Covetouſneſs is of the nature of Idolatry, in that it is a Preference of the Creature to the great Creator; as to Play out of Greedineſs of Winning, is more than to Covet my Neighbour's Goods; ſo we cannot forbear our fears, leſt the Gameſter, ſpecified in the Queſtion, you refer to, be ſo Unhappy as to be included in the Catalogue of thoſe, who are forbid to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Q. *Gentlemen, you would oblige the Publick in giving ſome rational Account, how the Twins to be ſeen at* Charing Croſs, *could happen to be joyn'd together in ſo wonderful a Manner?*

A. To form in your Minds some Idea of the manner how this unhappy Conjunction might be occasion'd; we must consider the Bodies of Embrio's may be compared to a soft Wax, being very apt to receive and keep any strong Impression made on the Mother's Body; so that supposing that the Mother when Big with these unfortunate Twins, either only saw two People strike one another Buttock against Buttock, or else receiv'd her self such a hard stroke, it occasion'd in the same Parts of the 2 Embrio's then in her Womb, the same violent Motion, by which, being soft and tender, they were closely joyned and confounded together. Tho' this may appear a very unaccountable Suggestion to some, yet the following Account will render it (we doubt not) very Rational, *viz. Schenkius* in his Observations, relates out of *Munster*'s Cosmography, that in the Year 1495, in a Village called *Bristadt*, near *Worms*; as two Women were talking together, one of which was with Child, a Third coming unexpectedly, knock'd their Foreheads together, which so surpriz'd and frighted the Big Woman, that she w in due time delivered of two Female Children as inseparably joyn'd together in the Top of their Foreheads. Having liv'd so ten Years, one Died and was cut off from the other, which also Died soon after. The same Author and *Parcus* in his Chyrurgical Works relate, many Instances of Monstruous Coalitions more strange and unaccountable than this, which is truly the Subject of our Wonder and Admiration, and we confess this very well deserves it too.

Q. Gentlemen, Pray can you give us some Account, relating to the two Monstruous Children lately brought into England, as to their Birth, how they could be kept so long, and whether the Mother survived their Birth?

A. The best Account we could gain was, That one was born three hours before the other, the last coming into the World with her Body doubled, and to Nature not without an extraordinary hard Labour to the Mother, who notwithstanding is reported to be still Alive, and to have had another Child since. We shall proceed in our next to answer some other very nice Questions sent us on this Subject.

Q. Gentlemen, Having Read your Apollo, *with abundance of Delight (and I hope Improvement) I observe you solve a great many Questions by the Operation of the Animal Spirits, therefore beg of you to tell me what those Animal Spirits are?*

A. The Animal Spirits are Particles of the Blood so exceedingly Rarified, and by Mutual Collision so particularly Configurated, as to be Capable of a Swifter Motion, and of a free Passage thro' such Parts of the Body as are Impervious to the other Particles of the Blood.

Q. Whether a Great Loose Coat were two or three Years, then took into pieces, trim'd with new Shalloon, Buttons, &c. and made into a Close Coat, can properly be call'd a New Coat? A Wager is Depending on your Solution.

A. It is doubtless a New Coat, from having receiv'd a New Form; there being nothing but Form New in Nature, all Matter being from the Beginning.

Q. Gentlemen, In the British Apollo, Numb. 20. *You assert the infinite divisibility of Matter; wherefore I desire you would be pleased to answer this Objection, namely, that it would follow from thence that the least part would contain in it an infinite Number of Parts: But how can that be, since there is no Number but may be added to, and therefore no Number which can be infinite.*

A. The Infinite Divisibility of Matter, tho' liable to other Objections than that you mention, yet cannot be confuted thence, because those Objections are drawn from the Nature of Infinity, of which we have no other Idea, than a Negative, Abstracted One. That one Infinite shou'd be larger than another (tho' undeniably Demonstrable) is yet another Objection of the same Nature with Yours. For to make the Lesser Infinite Equal to the Greater, there must be an Addition of the Excess; whereas one would think (as You observe) that Infinity were Incapable of Addition.

Q. I have lived almost 22 Years, I'm handsome, and a Fortune enough to keep my self, my Family none can dislike, I have had some Long Wiggs, Laced Coats and Tiffew Sleeves, to Sigh at my Feet: They no sooner talk of Marriage, but that Murdering Sound of Trumpet calls them from thence, and when they return have forgot their Vows; Now I beg Apollo's *Advice how to make them faithful Lovers?*

A. Bless us! 22 Years of Age and not yet to have fixt a Lover, when a Girl here in Town was in hopes to be a Mother by 8 Years of Age; 'Tis hard, wondrous hard. But we fear your Disappointments arose from your wrong Notions of the Matter, for perhaps it was not the murdering sound of the Trumpet that call'd away your Long-Wig'd, Lace-Coated, and Tiffew-Sleev'd Humble Servants, but the Murdering Sound of Matrimony; so, no wonder if they forgot the Vows they never design'd to keep upon your Conditions. To make such Lovers Faithful, may be a more difficult Operation than the fixing of Mercury, and the Conclusion perhaps not answer the Toil of the Experiment, for when such grow Faithful, they grow extream Dull, which seems not so agreeable to your Gaity. But Madam, if you are, as You say, Handsome, of a Good Fortune and Family, and altho' 22 Years of Age, provided you have not stood at that Age these 22 Years; You need not dispair of making a Conquest of one may be Faithful even your own Terms, if you can make a right Judgment, what it is they Sigh at your Feet for.

POEMS.

Q. *A Fool I am, it's true,*
I need not tell it You,
For by these Lines You'l see,
That Wise I fain would be,
Yet know not how.
If You'l some Sense impart,
Or tell me by what Art
The Blessing to obtain,
Your Oracle I'll still adore,
As much as heretofore,
And say your Title you may Justly claim:
That which I ask, I know is hard to find,
But who with You compares among Mankind?
To ask our Sex is much unfit,
For there alas, it's scarcer yet,
Since then to You alone my Suit I make,
Direct me if You can for pity sake. Silvia.

A. Would Noble *Silvia* fain
A Stock of Wisdom gain?
Let *Silvia* then deride,
The Snares of Worldly Pride;
Let *Silvia*'s purer heart,
From Vanities apart,
In Spheres diviner move,
Attract Cœlestial Love,

And

And *Sacred Wit* explore, that Fertil Ground
Where only *Wiſdom*'s ſought, where only found.
Q. Apollo's *Sons, you Jovial Lads,*
And hopeful Heirs of ſuch a Dad,
Tell me the Cauſe why with hard Drinking,
(for you ſhould know beſt to one's thinking.)
My Skull next day keeps painful Akeing,
And I'm all o'er in piteous taking,
And look as if I could not help it,
Tho' the Night before I roar'd and yelpt it;
And many a Merry Ballad Sung,
And did not Stammer with the Tongue,
And Bowls to th' Brim made nothing on,
Tho' larger than Anacreon's:
I think I've hit that hard Name *right,*
Tho' I am now in Doleful Plight,
And can't ſit, tho' I've more to ask ye,
Reſolve me then 'tis no great task t' ye.
A. Thou Jolly Red Noſe, Son of *Bacchus,*
That with ſuch fury doſt attack us:
Thou Genuine Stanch Anacreontick,
That daily drain'ſt the Helleſpontick:
That ſeem'ſt to be (whate'er you mean us)
As big as *Virgil*'s Old Silenus:
A Vapour in thy Cranium flies,
From whence thy Maladies ariſe;
Affects thy Nerves and makes thee chatter,
As tho' thou Nothing knew'ſt o'th' Matter.
But theſe your Bowls except you leſſen,
And Leave this potulent Profeſſion,
And wholly quit this Brain-ſubliming,
Deſign'd to Meliorate your Rhiming;
Your Muſe muſt ſoon Expect Abortion,
And your Noddle prove a *Caput Mortuum.*
Q. *Tell me Ye Powers that rule our Fate,*
Why are frail Men ſo Vain,
With ſo much Zeal to wiſh for that,
They never can attain?
Alſo Reſolve what is the Cauſe,
Before the Heavens Rain,
That Corns on Toes do ſo much Ake,
And I feel ſo much Pain;
Your Muſty Books ſearch to ſolve theſe,
Then I will ask again?
A. The Soul by Energy Divine,
Would Glorious Things attain,
Did not that Clog the Body Joyn,
And render all in Vain.
The Cauſe your Corns do Throb and Ake,
Upon impending Rain,
Look back to Number Twenty Five,
You'l find the Reaſon plain.
Thus we have ſolv'd you in a Trice;
Now pray Sir ask again.
Q. *Is it a Sin,* Apollo, *when*
A Prentice Boy ſhall now and then
A Can of Beer or Victuals Give
At his Maſter's Door, a Poor Man to Relieve?
A. It is a Sin, without Conſent,
How Fair ſoe'er You think th' Intent;
The Theft, the Charity defaces,
For to do Good by Ill, the Fact diſgraces.
Q. *I have a Wife*
That Leads an ill Life,
And Aſperſes me Ev'ry Day:
She runs me in Debt,
And will run further yet
If I any longer do ſtay.
By the Advice of her Friend,
Who lives at Cat———end,
And a long, dearly loving Acquaintance;
They would have me aſſure,
Without being ſecure,
To allow her a handſome Maintenance.
Nay, this is not all,
For my Good Name She'l mawl,
In Charging me falſly with Capital Crimes;
Pray tell wiſe Apollo,
Which way I ſhall follow,
And give a quick Anſwer to theſe my ſad Lines.
A. We hear your Complaint,
And believe *You* no Saint,
Notwithſtanding your harmleſs appearance:
For a Cauſe you may be,
In ſome little Degree,
Of your Wicked Wife's ill perſeverance.
But Granted She's Bad,
And your Caſe be as ſad,
To maintain her we will not adviſe ye;
Since She'l then act the ſame,
And Deſpoil your Good Name,
And the World in ſome Meaſure deſpiſe ye.
Rather ſend her to Sea,
Where She wafted may be,
As a Slave to ſome Foreign Plantation;
By which means you'l prevent
Any more Diſcontent,
And ſet free from ſuch Rubbiſh this Nation.

Gentlemen, I humbly beg the favour of your Society to inſert this Panegyrick in your next enſuing Paper, which will extreamly Oblige your Admirer and Humble Servant.

Apollo's Sons, could I advance your Fame,
It ſhould to vaſt Eternity lay Claim:
All future Ages ſhould your Wit adore,
And Praiſes give, till time ſhould be no more.
My Muſe can never to your Merits Riſe,
Which far extend to the Expanded Shies:
All I can ſay falls ſhort of what's your due,
The Gods of old ſcarce ever ſpake ſo true,
As what is now deliver'd us by you

For

For they in doubtful Words themſelves reveal'd,
And Myſtick Oracles the Truth conceal'd;
You like a God diſperſe thoſe Clouds away,
And ſhow bright Truth all radiant like the day:
To every Genius you an aptneſs find,
Which tells us plainly that you were deſign'd,
The Univerſal Light to all Mankind.

Foreign News, &c.

NAples, May 30. Letters from Barcelona ſay, that the King has declared the Marqueſs del Vaſto, Chamberlain of this Kingdom, and has ſetled the Government of the Iſle of Iſchis on him and his Heirs for ever, and granted him Poſſeſſion of the Fief of Rovella in Calabria. We are continually ſending Reinforcements of Foot to the Body of German Forces at Reggio: Which are to be imploy'd in the Expedition againſt Sicily. The Duke of [illegible]aiom is impriſon'd for Practices againſt the Government: And divers other Perſons are brought in[illegible]Calabres into our Caſtles, ſo 'tis not known [illegible]. The old Duke of Biſaccia is alſo to [illegible] Priſoner hither. By the Good Orders of [illegible], the Prince of Conn is conſiderably [illegible], to the great relief of the People. Our Preparations for the Expedition againſt Sicily go on with great Succeſs; and the Stores have been ſome time ready for the Squadron of Engliſh and Dutch Men of War, that are to aid that Enterprize. A Sum of [illegible] Crowns is providing for a free Gift to the Queen of Spain.

Rome, May 27. The Pope having Advice from Ferrara, that the Imperialiſts were drawing near that Place has ſent Orders for putting the City and Citadel into a State of Defence. He obſtinately refuſes to acknowledge King Charles III. by granting him the Inveſtiture of the Kingdom of Naples.

Rome, June 3. All our Advices ſay that the Imperialiſts have poſſeſſ'd themſelves of Comacchio and ſeveral other open Towns of that Province, threatning to beſiege the Capital; on which this Court has reſolv'd to raiſe 12 Companies of Foot, and 400 Horſe alſo to take into Pay 2000 Swiſs to be brought hither from France, and to cauſe what Regular Troops can be ſpar'd from other Places to March to Ferrara. In the mean time, the Imperialiſts grow daily more numerous, and have expell'd the Pope's Troops Garriſon'd in Magnavacca, ſo it is look'd upon that Hoſtilities are begun.

Genoa, June 1ſt. We have Advice from Barcelona that Count Staremberg has drawn together at Montblanck an Army of between 17 and 18000 Men; that the Prince of Darmſtad was poſted at Girunne with a Body of 8 or 10000 Soldiers and Miquelets; and that after the Arrival of the Succours expected from Italy, King Charles will take the Field in Perſon and Act Offenſively againſt the Forces of France and Spain.

A Private Anſwer to the Letter ſent us, Signed *D. G. C.* will be left as directed.

Whereas we read a Letter of the 30th of the laſt, in which the Author propoſes to deliver to one of our Society, ſome Copies of Foreign Journals, *&c.* We deſire he would appoint an hour on ſome Evening, either on a Tueſday, Wedneſday or Thurſday, at Wills Coffe-houſe in Scotland-Yard, which perhaps may turn to the Author's Satisfaction.

We being Inform'd that many Perſons deſign to begin with us next Quarter, they will much oblige us who ſend their Names in before, leaſt we omit ſome in the Hurry of Buſineſs.

Whereas this Paper now, beſides the great Numbers taken in, at Publick-Houſes; is taken in at many more Private-Houſes than any other Paper, and by Conſequence likely to be of more Effect for Advertiſements than any others; alſo, our taking Care that nothing ſhall be taken in but what is Creditable otherwiſe we might have much fill'd the *Paper* before this time; we ſuppoſe it may be of Incouragement to *People* to Advertiſe in this *Paper*.

Any *Perſons*, upon directing their Letters to the *Printer*, ſuperſcrib'd, for the *Britiſh Apollo*; may have this *Paper* brought to their Houſes, at two Shillings a Quarter, by the Men who carry them: Thoſe who come in within the Quarter, to have proportionable Deductions at the End: Alſo the Monthly-*Papers* for *April* and *May*: Likewiſe the Books of Guards neatly Bound to keep them in, at two Shillings a piece. It is deſired all Letters with Queſtions be directed thither, or to Mr. *Keble* in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, or to Mr. *Bickerton*, at the *Golden Flower-de-luce*, in St. *Paul's-Church Yard*, Booksellers: Where whole Sets may be had from the Beginning; at which *Places* likewiſe, Advertiſements are taken in. But all who deſire Sets, and to have them conſtantly deliver'd at their Houſes, muſt direct their Letters as above. *Note*, that they who have whole Sets are only to pay a Shilling for the 12 before *Lady-Day*, and the reſt to go on this Quarter.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

TAken from a Gentleman on the Road to Epſom, on the 8th Inſtant, a Gold Watch made by David Johnſon, and a Gold Snuff-Box, with A. R in a Cypher on it, and a Baron's Coronet: Whoever brings them to Mr. Wilſon in New-ſtreet, by Chancery-Lane, ſhall have ten Guineas Reward, or in Proportion for either.

Lately Publiſh'd.

A Brief Treatiſe of the Eyes, in which not only the Structure of the ſame is Anatomically demonſtrated, but the Diſtempers which for the moſt part are Incident thereto, are likewiſe diſtinctly deſcrib'd. To which is added ſome particular Directions for Preſerving the Sight: Together with a Table explaining the Terms of Art mention'd in the Treatiſe, thereby rendring the ſame Intelligible and Uſeful to all Perſons. By William Croſſe Profeſſor of Phyſick and Oculiſt. Printed and Sold by John Morphew by Stationers Hall.

LEFT in a Hackney Coach the 1ſt of May, which ſet a Gentleman down at a Young Man's Coffee Houſe by Charing Croſs, a Bag of Writings containing divers Leaſes and Releaſes: If the Coachman, or any other Perſon, brings them to Mr. Johnſon againſt the Maypole in the Strand, he ſhall have two Guineas Reward.

LOST, or taken from a Lady's Side, going out of Pinkethman's Booth the laſt day of May-Fair, a Gold Squeezing-watch, with a Gold Chain to it: whoever brings it to Mr. Johnſon againſt the King on Horſeback, Charing-Croſs, ſhall have ten Guineas Reward.

RUN away from his Maſter on the 2d Inſtant, David Marat, a Black about ſeventeen Years of Age, with ſhort wooly Hair. He had on a whitiſh Cloath Livery, Lin'd with Blew, and Princesmettal Buttons, with a Turbant on his Head: He ſounds a Trumpet, whoever ſecures him and brings him to Edward Talbot Eſq; by Kingſtreet near Soho, ſhall have five Guines Reward.

RUN away from his Maſter on the 14th Inſtant, one Tho. Jones, about 24 Years of Age, with Pock-holes in his Face, a dark Brown Wig, in a Grey Cloath Livery lin'd with black, Stammers a little in his Speech, whoever brings him to Mr. Dikes, by the Horſe-ſhooe Tavern in Drury-lane, ſhall have two Guineas Reward.

Printed for the Authors, by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Preſs*, againſt *Water-Lane* in *Fleet-ſtreet*. Where Advertiſements are Taken in.